

Eastern Illinois University

The Keep

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February

2021

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2-18-2021

## Daily Eastern News: February 18, 2021

Eastern Illinois University

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## STUDENT SENATE MEETS

Eastern's Student Senate met Wednesday evening and swore in a new Senator.

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## ON THE HORIZON

The Eastern football team is preparing to begin its season on Sunday following nearly 15 months without games.

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# THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Thursday, February 18, 2021

"TELL THE TRUTH AND DON'T BE AFRAID"

VOL. 105 | NO. 97

CELEBRATING A CENTURY OF COVERAGE

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## CAA meeting scheduled for Thursday afternoon

By Corryn Brock  
News Editor | @corryn\_brock

The Council on Academic Affairs will vote one several program changes during its meeting Thursday at 2 p.m. The meeting will be held virtually.

The Nutrition and Dietetics Program is one that could potentially see changes.

With program change, the CAA is being asked to add Personal Nutrition, Honors (NTR 2190) as an option for Personal Nutrition, add Research Methods (NTR 2600) and Motivational Interviewing (PUBH 2500) as required courses, remove Community Health Behavior Methods (PUBH 3700) as a required course and the revision of Nutrition Assessment and Counseling (NTR 2750).

The rationale for the changes is "The addition of NTR 2600 will provide a foundation for NTR students to understand, review, and critique nutrition information from scientific literature and other resources. The addition of PUBH 2500 will provide the opportunity for NTR students to more extensively study the methods related to motivational interviewing. The essential health behavior theories from PUBH 3700 will be covered in the revised NTR 2750 course."

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## Playing pickleball



ZACH BERGER | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Keaton Greene, a senior majoring in physical education, wins 15-2 in his first round of the Intramural pickleball tournament in the Student Recreation Center.

## Naming Committee discusses survey Wednesday

By Corryn Brock  
News Editor | @corryn\_brock

The Naming Committee had a discussion on survey and forum questions for the potential Douglas Hall name change during its meeting Wednesday morning.

The committee discussed a rough draft introduction for the survey and debated the language used in it.

Currently the survey will include a brief explanation of the arguments for and against the name change.

The argument for retaining the name is described as: "Built simultaneously in the late 50's, the two residence halls that now bear the names of 'Lincoln Hall' and 'Douglas Hall' were given those names by the University to recognize that Charleston, IL was the site of one of the historic debates between Stephen Douglas and Abraham Lincoln, rivals in the US Senate race in Illinois in 1858, a century before. As such, the Douglas name honors the history of the debate, not the man himself. It is important to retain the name of Douglas Hall to not lose sight of the historical importance of the debates and the role that Charleston played in one of the most important political debates of the 19th century. This history is a point of pride for many members of the Charleston and Coles County communities. Removing the name is a way of erasing important regional history."

The argument for removing the name is described as: "Eastern Illinois University proclaims itself as an institution 'committed to diversity and inclusion.' Stephen Douglas, Illinois' US Senator from 1847 to 1861, is unworthy of commemoration at the University because he built his political career upon a platform advocating for the extension of slavery into



PHOTO FROM THE KEEP

the western territories of the US while consistently relying upon inflammatory and racist rhetoric to excite the support of pro-slavery voters. At the first Lincoln-Douglas debate, Douglas stated his position, that the 'Government...was made for white men, for the benefit of white men and their posterity forever, and I am in favor of confining citizenship to white men, men of European birth and descent, instead of conferring it upon negroes, Indians, and other inferior races.' Douglas' legacy is antithetical to EIU's values. Continuing to commemorate his name does further harm to current and future students, faculty, and staff at the University."

Both will be changed based on conversations had during the meeting and will be rewritten to better reflect what the committee intends for the message to be.

Committee member Diane Burns further explained what the survey will look like for those who participate in giving their opinion to the committee.

She said the survey should take two minutes unless the respondent chooses to give longer than usual answers.

Giving a name to respond to the survey will not be required.

The committee is seeking opinions from students, faculty, staff, former employees, alumni and the surrounding community.

Committee member Don Holly said a faculty forum regarding the potential Douglas Hall name change will be held March 24.

The members of the committee who host forums are asked to record meetings so other members of the committee who are unable to attend can still

hear the discussion.

Ken Wetstein, ex officio convener of the committee, said for student forums the committee should hold one for the general student body as well as separate forums for the Black Student Union, the Student Senate, the Douglas Hall Council and/or the Resident Hall Association.

Committee member Mona Davenport encouraged including the National Pan-Hellenic Council, National Panhellenic Conference and the Interfraternity Council and combining the Black Student Union and the Student Senate for a meeting.

She also mentioned including the NAACP chapter, Latin American Student Organization and Alpha Psi Lambda.

Holly said he thinks the forums for the groups could be held individually to encourage more engagement among students in the forums.

The idea of groups sending delegates to speak on their behalf was also discussed.

Those interested in speaking to a member of the committee can reach out to Don Holly (representing the Faculty Senate), Claudia Janssen-Danyi (representing the Council on Academic Affairs), Angie Campbell (committee chair and representative of the Staff Senate), Diane Burns (representing the Council of Chairs), Noor-ul-Haash Khamisani (representing the Student Senate), Carlos Amaya (presidential appointee), Mona Davenport (presidential appointee) or Ken Wetstein, Vice President of University Advancement and ex officio convener of the committee.

The next Naming Committee meeting will be held March 3.

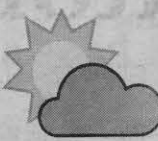
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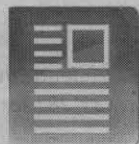
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THURSDAY

FRIDAY

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Low: 4°Partly Cloudy  
High: 17°  
Low: 4°

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## STATE AND NATION

THE ASSOCIATED PRESS AND CAPITOL NEWS ILLINOIS

## Pritzker outlines \$41.6 billion budget with flat state spending

By Jerry Nowicki  
and Peter Hancock  
Capitol News Illinois

SPRINGFIELD — Gov. JB Pritzker outlined a \$41.6 billion budget proposal Wednesday that would hold most state agencies at flat funding levels but which relies heavily on increased federal funds as well as changes to the state's corporate tax structure that lawmakers have not yet approved.

The budget proposal, which is only the governor's request for lawmakers in the General Assembly, does not call for income tax increases. Over the next four months, lawmakers will work on an operating budget of their own to send to the governor which may or may not address all of his requests.

It was Pritzker's third budget message since taking office in 2019. And unlike others that were delivered from the House chamber in the Capitol, this year's message was delivered remotely through a prerecorded video due to the ongoing COVID-19 pandemic. The address was recorded at the Illinois State Fairgrounds, which now serves as a COVID-19 vaccination site.

In his speech, Pritzker had harsh rhetoric for "far right" Republicans at all levels of government, describing them as "carnival barkers," for lobbying against federal relief to states and for defying health guidelines. He also once again made note of the two-year budget impasse presided over by Republican former Gov. Bruce Rauner, calling it a "self-inflicted" period of suffering which saw the state's backlog of unpaid bills balloon to over \$16 billion.

He said in the past 20 years, as pension payments have become an increasing burden on state finances, Illinois' number of government employees has shrunk by 30 percent, the Illinois State Police force has shrunk by 40 percent, and the Illinois Environmental Protection Agency work force shrunk by 60 percent, he said.

"If there is anything the last year should have taught us, it is that we need a reliably well-funded government," he said. "Many on the far right have made their name in politics by touting cuts to unemployment programs and health insurance coverage. They called anyone who sought unemployment benefits 'takers.' They demonize state employees. And they fought unrelentingly to eliminate any state or federal funds designed to make health care more accessible, equitable and fair."

Much of the speech was dedicated to demonstrating the toll of the pandemic both on society and state finances.

"I had bolder plans for our state budget than what I am going to present to you today. It would be a lie to suggest otherwise," Pritzker said. "But as all our families have had to make hard choices over the last year, so too does state government."

The budget proposed for fiscal year 2022 relies on more than \$900 million in corporate tax changes that will require action from the General Assembly. Those include a reversal of previous General Assembly action to repeal the corporate franchise tax, a cap on net operating losses for the fiscal year that would allow for \$314 million in savings and a cap on a retailer's discount to \$1,000 per month, among other changes.

Senior budget officials, in a briefing before the address was streamed, noted the governor will still seek to decouple the state tax code from changes allowed in the federal Coronavirus Aid Relief and Economic Security, or CARES, Act. That change would keep revenues flat from a year ago by providing that the CARES Act cuts passed last year would not automatically reduce Illinois state tax burdens for businesses.

The measure failed in the lame duck session as Republicans blasted it as a more than \$500 million tax increase on businesses, but Democrats at the time said it was a way to prevent revenue loss by maintaining the status quo.

Total revenues for the year represent a 4.1 percent decrease from a year ago, due in large part to \$2 billion in borrowing from the federal Municipal Liquidity Facility program, \$690 million of which is due in fiscal year 2022 but will be prepaid in fiscal year 2021, according to budget officials. Another \$1.2 billion in MLF borrowing from June 2020 is also due to be repaid in the current fiscal year.

K-12 education funding from the state will remain flat from a year ago, the second straight year the state would forgo that added \$350 million called for in state law each year as part of an evidence-based funding formula.

The budget proposal also eliminates a 48-month deadline for repaying inter-fund borrowing, which alleviates \$276 million of pressure in the current fiscal year by allowing the state to repay fund borrowing on an extended deadline.

The budget calls for a full pension payment and increases funding for the Department of Children and Family Services by 7.9 percent. Pritzker also asked lawmakers to pass a standalone bill increasing spending for the Illinois Department of Employment Security by \$60 million in federal funds for the current fiscal year and called for an added \$73 million for the current fiscal year in federal funds.

Higher education would see funding levels maintained and Monetary Award Program grants for college students would increase by \$28 million, per the governor's request.

Pritzker's budget proposal also calls for an 8 percent reduction, or \$638 million, in Medicaid expenses. That's because the federal government has increased its share of Medicaid funding by 6.2 percentage points through the end of 2021 as part of its pandemic response plan.

Local governments also would see a cut in financial assistance they get from the state. The Local Government Distributive Fund, or LGDF, which gives local governments a share of the income tax revenue the state collects, would only be funded at 90 percent, but officials in the governor's office said they expect that cut to be offset by gains they municipalities would realize through the closing of corporate tax loopholes.

Budget officials also claimed the budget shortfall for the current fiscal year has been addressed through the federal borrowing, \$700 million in operational cuts and revenues performing better than projections. The state is now projecting a surplus of \$77 million for the current fiscal year, along with the ability to prepay some of the Municipal Liquidity Facility borrowing from the previous fiscal year.

## Power outages linger for millions as another icy storm is expected

AUSTIN, Texas (AP) — Utility crews raced Wednesday to restore power to nearly 3.4 million customers around the U.S. who were still without electricity or heat in the aftermath of a deadly winter storm, and another blast of ice and snow threatened to sow more chaos.

The latest storm front was expected to bring more hardship, especially to states that are unaccustomed to such frigid weather — parts of Texas, Arkansas and the Lower Mississippi Valley.

"There's really no letup to some of the misery people are feeling across that area," said Bob Oravec, lead forecaster with the National Weather Service, referring to Texas.

The system was forecast to move into the Northeast on Thursday. More than 100 million people live in areas covered by some type of winter weather warning, watch or advisory, the weather service said.

At least 30 people have died in the extreme weather this week, some while

struggling to find warmth inside their homes. In the Houston area, one family succumbed to carbon monoxide from car exhaust in their garage. Another perished as they used a fireplace to keep warm.

Record low temperatures were reported in city after city. Scientists say the polar vortex, a weather pattern that usually keeps to the Arctic, is increasingly spilling into lower latitudes and staying there longer, and global warming caused by humans is partly responsible.

Utilities from Minnesota to Texas and Mississippi have implemented rolling blackouts to ease the burden on power grids straining to meet extreme demand for heat and electricity. In Mexico, rolling blackouts Tuesday covered more than one-third of the country after the storms in Texas cut the supply of imported natural gas.

The worst U.S. power outages by far have been in Texas, where 3 million homes and businesses remained without power as of midday Wednesday.

## Rush Limbaugh, 'voice of American conservatism,' dies

Rush Limbaugh, the talk radio host who ripped into liberals and laid waste to political correctness with a gleeful malice that made him one of the most powerful voices in politics, influencing the rightward push of American conservatism and the rise of Donald Trump, died Wednesday. He was 70.

Limbaugh said a year ago that he had lung cancer. His death was announced on his show by his wife, Kathryn.

Unflinchingly conservative, wildly partisan, bombastically self-promoting and larger than life, Limbaugh galvanized listeners for more than 30 years with his talent for sarcastic, insult-laced commentary.

He called himself an entertainer, but his rants during his three-hour weekday radio show broadcast on nearly 600 U.S. stations shaped the national political conversation, swaying ordinary Republicans and the direction of their party.

Blessed with a made-for-broadcasting voice, he delivered his opinions with such certainty that his followers, or "Ditto-heads," as he dubbed them, took his words as sacred truth.

"In my heart and soul, I know I have become the intellectual engine of the conservative movement," Limbaugh, with typical immodesty, told author Zev Chafetz in the 2010 book "Rush Limbaugh: An Army of One."

Forbes magazine estimated his 2018 income at \$84 million, ranking him only behind Howard Stern among radio personalities.

Limbaugh took as a badge of honor the title "most dangerous man in America." He said he was the "truth detector," the "doctor of democracy," a "lover of mankind," a "harmless, lovable little fuzz ball" and an "all-around good guy." He claimed he had "talent on loan from God."

## NASA rover attempting to make most difficult Martian touchdown yet

CAPE CANAVERAL, Fla. (AP) — Spacecraft aiming to land on Mars have skipped past the planet, burned up on entry, smashed into the surface, and made it down amid a fierce dust storm only to spit out a single fuzzy gray picture before dying.

Almost 50 years after the first casualty at Mars, NASA is attempting its hardest Martian touchdown yet.

The rover named Perseverance

is headed Thursday for a compact 5-mile-by-4-mile (8-kilometer-by-6.4-kilometer) patch on the edge of an ancient river delta. It's filled with cliffs, pits, sand dunes and fields of rocks, any of which could doom the \$3 billion mission. The once submerged terrain also could hold evidence of past life, all the more reason to gather samples at this spot for return to Earth 10 years from now.



# Student Senate swears in new Senator

By Helena Edwards

Student Government Reporter | @DEN\_news

The Student Senate meeting Wednesday started off with the swearing-in of Student Senator Natalie Midyng.

With former Student Senator Zach Bray quitting his position, the senate is left with 11 senators, 14 being needed for quorum.

Quorum was not met, so an unofficial meeting was held and the senate could not approve agenda items.

Two reports were given during audience participation.

First for audience participation was from Director of University Housing and Dining Services Mark Hudson to discuss future increase of room and board rates.

Room and board rates are discussed by the Bond Revenue Committee com-

posed of on-campus students and then ultimately sent to the Board of Trustees to approve.

On-campus resident satisfaction is gauged by a series of surveys such as for laundry machines, wireless service connections, and cable connections to then be used in planning the budget.

Reasons for an increase in room and board rates includes the minimum wage increase for student employees that must be accounted for, as well as an increase to resident assistants stipends.

It will be an expected 3 percent increase for the meal plans part of room and board due to transportation costs and an annual inflation rate as Hudson explained.

There is also a liability insurance increase of .047 percent for building replacements if needed.

The last meeting is planned for Feb. 22 for final discussion.

The second audience participation was from Crystal Brown, Assistant Director for Civic Engagement and Volunteerism and Anna Fishbein, Student Engagement Office graduate assistant.

They discussed food insecurity on Eastern Illinois University's campus and a solution of opening a Big Blue Campus Food Pantry, hopefully being opened during the fall semester by the Civic Engagement and Volunteerism office.

Overall, 40 percent of students deal with food insecurity and among these students 86.4 percent worry about running out of food, 92.6 percent could not afford to eat balanced meals, and 85.9 percent cut the size or skip meals because of money.

There are three food pantries avail-

able in town. The Charleston Food Pantry and Standing Stone face the issue of some students not having transportation access to them.

Newman Center Food Pantry is another option that Eastern partners with, but limited hours cause issues for students as well.

To get this put into place they are first asking for a formal resolution of support from the Student Government to show the campus that there is support for it and be willing to spread the word about this.

It was met with opposition due to other pantries already open, Student Body President Noor ul-Haash Khamisani proposing better collaboration with pantries such as the Panther Shuttle to solve transportation issues.

Committee assignments were released

for committee chairs, followed by other members:

- Academic Affairs - Prabin Karki; Payton Ade
- Alumni Relations - Marcus Powell
- Business Affairs - Vacant
- Diversity Affairs - Constance Young; Cassandra Amaya
- External Relations - Seth Yeakel; Natalie Midyng
- Internal Affairs - Katelynn Alexander
- Student Affairs - Subodh Khanal; Sierra Humphrey
- University Enhancements - Francesco Romano; Paige Thing

The next Student Senate meeting will be Mar. 3 due to the Personal Wellness Day next week.

Helena Edwards can be reached at 581-2812 or at [heedwards@eiu.edu](mailto:heedwards@eiu.edu).

## » CAA

CONTINUED FROM PAGE 1

If approved the change would make the credit hour requirement increase from 70 to 71.

The Communication Studies Program is also up for revisions.

The CAA is being asked to include a new course, Capstone in Communication Studies (CMN 4680), in the core courses for the majority of options in the program. They are also being asked to replace a course in the Corporate Communication option.

The rationale for the changes is "Over the past year, the Division of Communication Studies has performed a complete overhaul of assessment practices, which involved revising program goals,

and mapping curriculum to see how well it meets those goals. We found that in order to refine our assessment, and to keep our program in line with overall disciplinary goals as set out by the National Communication Association, it is necessary to institute a senior capstone course. A capstone course will add rigor to our students' final year, allow them to demonstrate disciplinary knowledge, and help us to better assess our core curriculum. The addition of this course will increase the major requirement by three credits. In addition to this proposal cleaning up some minor catalog language, we are also replacing one course in the Corporate Communication option area. We have

deleted CMN 3300: Interviewing as a required course, and replaced it with CMN 3710: Intercultural Communication. This change fills a gap in coursework that specifically addresses difference."

The Electrical Engineering Program is seeking to add Logic Design (PHY 1100) to required courses for the major as it is now a requirement for some upper level electrical engineering courses. The program is also asking the CAA to approve the addition of Introduction to Plasma Physics (EEN 4780) to electives for the program.

The rationale for these changes are "The Logic Design course is instituted in the program to engage students in the

subject of Electrical Engineering in their Freshman year as opposed to their Sophomore year when they take their first EEN course according to the current catalog. This course also will serve to better prepare the students for the upper level courses. Plasma physics is fundamental to controlled nuclear fusion and other fields in engineering. It will serve our Electrical Engineers well in their career."

The change would change the required minimum credit hours for the major from 76-79 to 79-81.

The Geography Program is also seeking changes after not having been revised in six years.

The program is seeking to:

· Increase the difficulty of Introduction to Cartography (GEO 3800) by replacing it with Cartography and Visualization (GEO 4810)

· If Cartography and Visualization (GEO 4810) is approved, Introduction to Cartography (GEO 3800) will be removed from each program and the Course Catalog

· Pending approval of Cartography and Visualization (GEO 4810) it will need to be added to the electives of the Techniques section of the options for the undergraduate geography degree

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## STAFF EDITORIAL

## Limbaugh's legacy is one of hate and lies

Conservative radio host and media figure Rush Limbaugh died Wednesday at age 70.

Many people took to social media following news of his death and discussions of his legacy quickly sprung up online.

Some heralded him as a media trailblazer and so-called warrior against political correctness. Others focused on his decades-long record of saying racist, sexist and otherwise despicable things.

We at The Daily Eastern News consider Limbaugh's legacy to be one of nothing but hatred and lies.

Limbaugh is a man who once had a segment on his radio show where he would read the names of people who died from the AIDS virus while playing applause sound effects.

He also compared a 12-year-old Chelsea Clinton to a dog while her father was president and said the actor Michael J. Fox was exaggerating the severity of his Parkinson's disease to help raise awareness for stem cell research.

Limbaugh made countless racist, xenophobic and misogynistic comments and was one of the main figures that falsely claimed that Barack Obama was not born in the United States.

It is true that Limbaugh changed the media landscape. It is also true that he made his living saying terrible things at the expense of other people with no regard for them at all.

His impact was overwhelmingly negative, and we will be dealing with it for a long time.

## Quote of the Day:

**"You can't base your life on other people's expectations."**

Stevie Wonder

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BY ZACH BERGER

## Winter storm makes me miss summer

As a lot of us are well aware of, lots of areas here in the United States have been experiencing record-breaking bitter cold and heavy snowfall, with Illinois being one of them.

Even here in Charleston we have been hit hard with inclement weather, which truly surprised me.

All of Monday, I was left with my mouth hanging open as I watched the snow pile up and the wind blow violently through the trees from my bedroom window. It just absolutely shocked me when I checked the weather on my phone and saw we had reached below zero temperatures.

It all took me aback because in my time at Eastern, I have not experienced the same harsh winters I had when I lived back home.

In fact, in the two and a half years I have been a student here, I have only experienced one snow day. That was way back during my freshman year, and I definitely didn't think I would see another winter storm in my time here. At least I hoped I wouldn't.



**Kyara Morales-Rodriguez**

These days, I have been holed up inside, refusing to leave unless absolutely necessary. I try to only leave if I need to get food, but I dread the idea of having to make the trek across campus, walking down slippery and snow-covered sidewalks, just to grab a bite at a dining hall.

I miss feeling the warmth of the sun against my skin. I miss walking around campus without having to wear a puffy blob of a coat. I miss the way outdoor spaces like parks

and beaches just come to life during summer days. I miss not freezing in my room because the heater barely works here (cough, cough, get it together, Stevenson Hall).

All these cold winter days just really got me missing summer more than ever before. I think that now that all the fun of winter is over (literally just Christmas), I am now anxiously waiting for it to end.

I know when summer comes around, I will hate the sweltering heat. I know that I will complain about how hot and sweaty I will be all the time. I know that I will dread the grand return of disgusting critters like mosquitos, spiders, and flies. I know that I will be dreaming of Christmas and snow-covered treetops.

But for now, I will be counting down the days till the first day of summer. 122 more days to go!

*Kyara Morales-Rodriguez is a junior English major. She can be reached at 581-2812 or knmoralesrodriguez@eiu.edu.*

## Interpol's back catalogue gets new addition

Matador Records, the record label of my favorite band, Interpol, announced via Instagram Wednesday that Interpol would be releasing their song "Mind Over Time" by making it available to stream or download.

Although I've heard the song before on YouTube, this is still exciting news because it's another addition to a vastly underappreciated back catalogue.

Interpol has a fantastic collection of demos and unreleased tracks that I hope are able to see the light of day in the future. Some have been released as parts of deluxe editions of albums or as part of soundtracks, like the song "Direction," featured in the soundtrack for the show "Six Feet Under," according to an NME article from 2005, which was right in the middle of some of the band's best work.

There are even alternate versions of popular songs like "PDA" and "Roland" that offer insight into early phases of the band's career, before the release of their debut album, "Turn On the Bright Lights."

"Mind Over Time" was written around the time of the band's third album, "Our Love Was



**Ryan Meyer**

Admire," and features a slow build that leads into a voicemail recording and culminates in a swell similar to other high points on the album in songs like "Pioneer To the Falls" and "Pace Is the Trick."

Voicemails are a bit overused in music these days, but I imagine in or around 2007 it was a unique stylistic choice. It seems to feature a man looking to reconnect and visit with who I assume to be the protagonist of the song as the music plays quietly behind the message. Right before the band explodes into its loudest point of the song, the voice

is layered in a way that makes it sound deeper and it says "Hope your holidays go well."

"Mind Over Time" was originally only featured on the Japanese version of the CD, according to the Instagram post.

I hope that Interpol and other bands I appreciate continue to release music from earlier periods in their careers. Listening to a song like "Mind Over Time" makes me want to revisit other music from that period, and I'd likely do the same if they were to release a song from say, 2018's "Marauder" time-frame.

Possibly my favorite "rare" Interpol track is "All at Once," which I think was meant to be a B-side for "El Pintor," the band's fifth record from 2014.

I first heard the song on a Vimeo upload, of all things, and it is still one of my favorite Interpol songs. It's too easy to speculate how many other gems are hiding that never made it on to albums or soundtracks.

*Ryan Meyer is a sophomore journalism major. He can be reached at 581-2812 or rameyer@eiu.edu.*

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# Ash Wednesday

The Newman Catholic Center held Ash Wednesday services on Wednesday.

Ash Wednesday marks the beginning of Lenten Season which will end on April 3, a day before Easter.

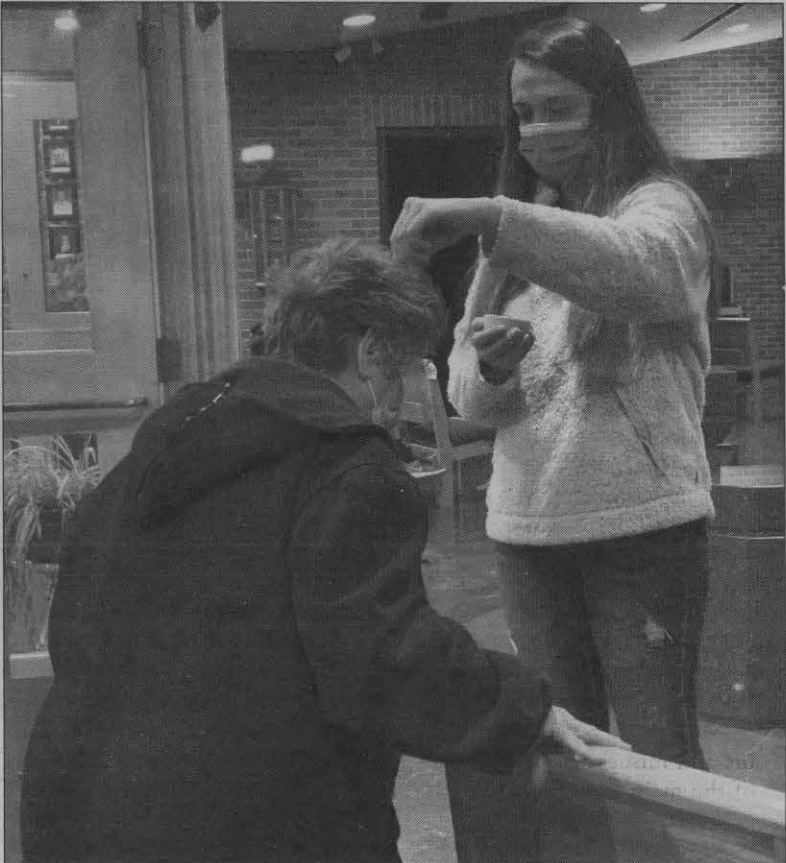
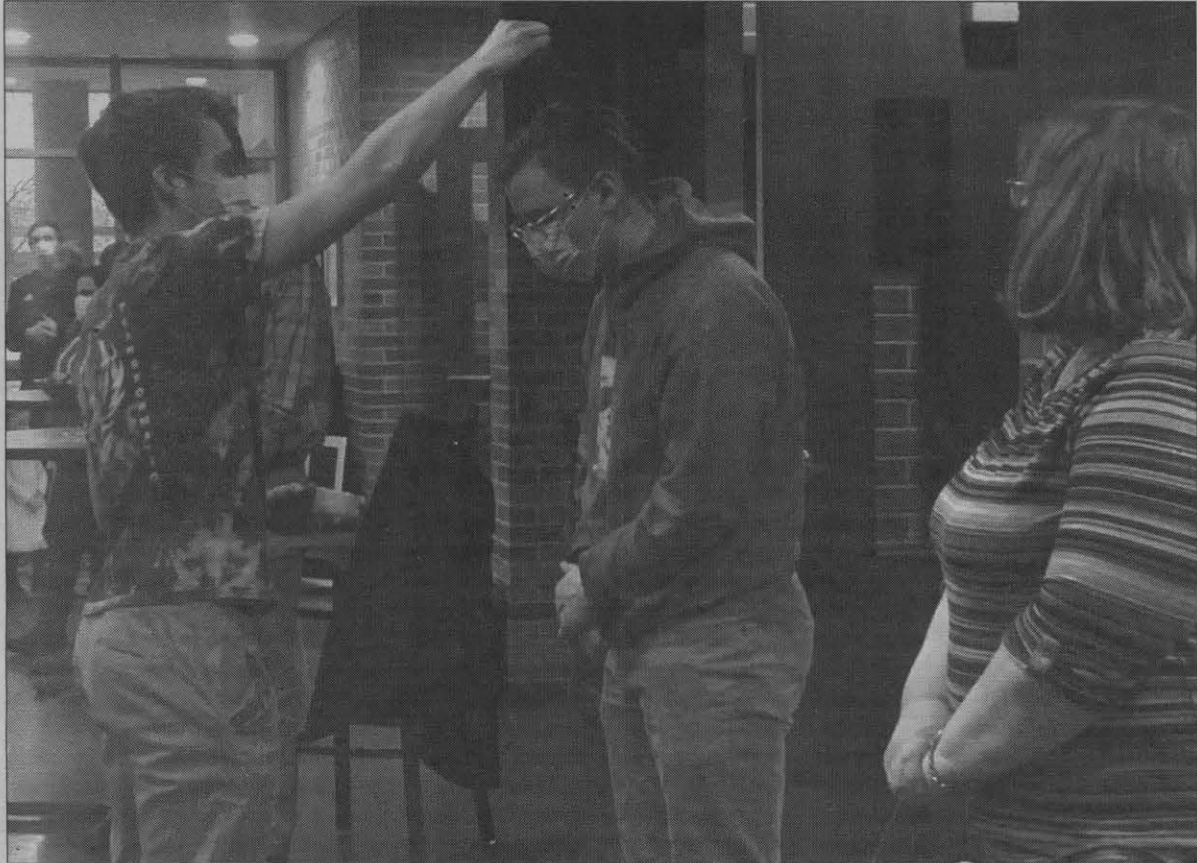
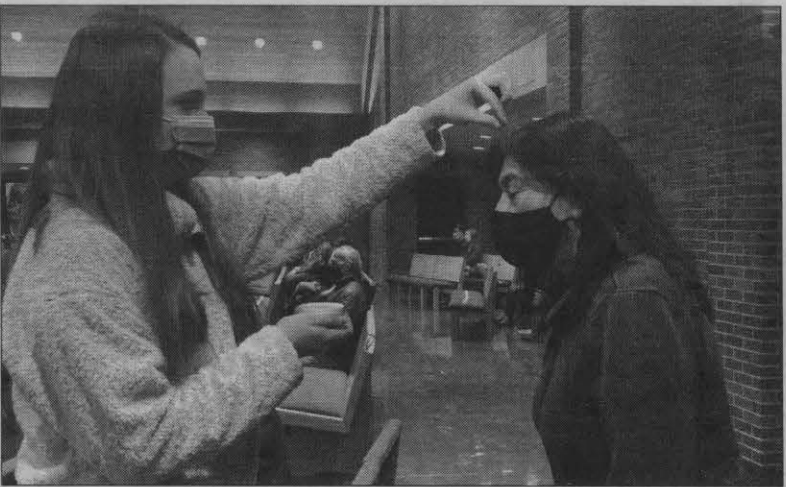
Lent is a 40 day period that is meant for reflection and preparation before Eastern.

It is supposed to symbolize the Bible's story of Jesus Christ sacrifice in the desert for 40 days.

Lent is often celebrated by giving up something for the forty days. Examples of things people often give up include: fast food, coffee, gossip, alcohol and meat.

Another thing often done to celebrate the season is to find something to do that a person does not typically do like working out, donating an item every day or correcting a bad habit.

STORY AND PHOTOS BY CORRYN BROCK



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## Ash Wednesday service



BRYCE HERRIN | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS

Alani Aceves, an early childhood education major, spent her Ash Wednesday at Newman Catholic Center's noon service. Aceves says that Ash Wednesday is the first day of Lent and said she will use this period to "make time to make sure I pray every day."

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# Nadal blows 2-set lead against Tsitsipas in Australian Open

MELBOURNE, Australia (AP) — Rafael Nadal entered his Australian Open quarterfinal with a 223-1 record when grabbing the first two sets of a Grand Slam match.

Thanks to his own mistakes — and some spirited play by Stefanos Tsitsipas — that mark is now 223-2.

A couple of uncharacteristically sloppy overheads and a framed backhand in a third-set tiebreaker began Nadal's undoing, and his bid here for a men's-record 21st major championship eventually ended Wednesday with 3-6, 2-6, 7-6 (4), 6-4, 7-5 loss to the younger, sharper Tsitsipas.

"Was little bit of everything, no? I missed a couple of balls in the tiebreak that I shouldn't — that I could

not — miss if I want to win. And that's it," said Nadal, who briefly left the Spanish portion of his post-match news conference after clutching at his cramping right hamstring.

"I have to go back home," Nadal said, "and practice to be better."

At his put-the-ball-where-he-wants-it best in the early going, Nadal went ahead rather easily, winning 27 consecutive points on his serve in one stretch and running his streak of consecutive sets won at major tournaments to 35, one shy of Roger Federer's record for the professional era.

Nadal and Federer are currently tied at 20 Grand Slam singles titles, more than any other man in the history of a sport that dates to the late

1800s.

But Tsitsipas never wavered and that surprisingly poor tiebreaker by Nadal — thinking too far ahead, perhaps? — helped hand over the third set and begin the epic comeback.

"I started very nervous, I won't lie," the fifth-seeded Tsitsipas said. "But I don't know what happened after the third set. I just flew like a little bird. Everything was working for me. The emotions at the very end are indescribable."

As Tsitsipas played, in Nadal's estimation, a "very, very high level of tennis" over the last two sets, the 34-year-old Spaniard's play dipped considerably.

Nadal made a total of only 10 un-

forced errors in the first two sets combined, then 32 the rest of the way — 11 in the third, 14 in the fourth, seven in the fifth.

The only other occasion in which Nadal went from a two-set advantage to a defeat in a Slam came at the 2015 U.S. Open against Fabio Fognini (who just so happened to have lost to Nadal in the fourth round at Melbourne Park this year).

So now, instead of Nadal attempting to surpass Federer, it will be Tsitsipas — a 22-year-old from Greece with a flashy game — who will meet 2019 U.S. Open runner-up Daniil Medvedev in the semifinals Friday.

Neither Tsitsipas nor Medvedev has won a Grand Slam tournament.

## Japan starts COVID-19 vaccinations with eye on Olympics

TOKYO (AP) — Japan launched its coronavirus vaccination campaign Wednesday, months after other major economies started giving shots and amid questions about whether the drive would reach enough people quickly enough to save a Summer Olympics already delayed by the pandemic.

Despite a recent rise in infections, Japan has largely dodged the kind of cataclysm that has battered other wealthy countries' economies, social networks and health care systems. But the fate of the Olympics, and the billions of dollars at stake, makes Japan's vaccine campaign crucial. Japanese officials are also well aware that rival China, which has had success beating back the virus, will host the Winter Olympics next year, heightening the desire to make the Tokyo Games happen.

Japan's rollout lagged behind other places because it asked vaccine maker Pfizer to conduct clinical trials with Japanese people, in addition to tests already conducted in six other nations — part of an effort to address worries in a country with low vaccine confidence.

# Bucks executive announces Senate run

MADISON, Wis. (AP) — Democrat Alex Lasry, a 33-year-old Milwaukee Bucks executive and son of a billionaire, announced Wednesday that he's running for the U.S. Senate in 2022 for the seat held by Republican Ron Johnson.

The race is expected to be one of the most hotly contested in the country with control of the Senate hanging in the balance. Johnson, who rose out of the tea party movement, is one of former President Donald Trump's most ardent sup-

porters representing a state that President Joe Biden won by fewer than 21,000 votes.

Lasry, in an interview, said he was running because Johnson was "peddling lies and conspiracies" and didn't represent the people of Wisconsin.

"He's been in Washington not trying to get something done but trying to make sure things don't happen," said Lasry, a New York City native. "The reason I'm getting in is we need a change."

Johnson called Lasry a "33-year-old New Yorker" and hit him for receiving the COVID-19 vaccine last month, even though he's not yet eligible in Wisconsin. Lasry got it after his wife's uncle, who is a rabbi at a senior living center in Milwaukee, said there were extra, unused doses available.

"Alex Lasry is the kind of guy who used his wealth and connections to cut the line to get a COVID shot before more vulnerable Wisconsinites," Johnson said in a prepared statement. "What more do you need to know about him?"

Lasry's campaign did not immediately respond to Johnson's allegations that he used his wealth to receive the shot. Health officials have encouraged vaccinators to use every shot available before they are spoiled if they run out of eligible people to inoculate. Lasry at the time had credited his wife's family connection and said it wasn't due to his family's money and status.

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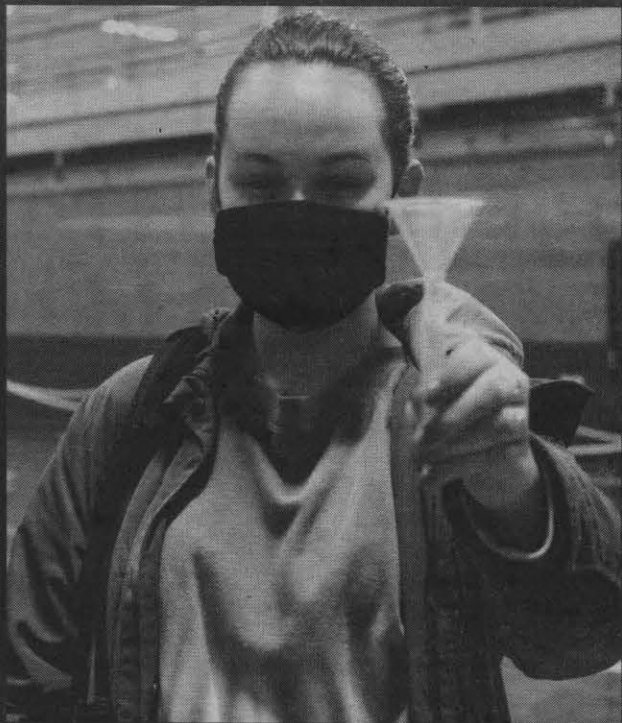
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# Panthers to open delayed season Sunday

By Adam Tumino  
Editor-in-Chief | @adam\_tumino

It has been nearly 15 months since the Eastern football team took the field for a game.

This virus-extended offseason will end Sunday at 1 p.m. when the Panthers travel to play Tennessee-Martin in the season opener for both teams.

Eastern head coach Adam Cushing is in his second season leading the Panthers, and said that both he and the team are ready for football to finally return.

"You can feel (the excitement) with the team, especially pre-practice today," he said. "We did a game week already, but actual game week and knowing that game day is only four days away, it's what these guys have worked their tails off for since November of 2019."

Also feeling the excitement for the game is redshirt-senior safety Raymond Crittenden.

"It's very exciting. It's like Christmas day," Crittenden said. "With the weather, it all fits. It's like a gift. We're very blessed to be able to play football again."

As far as the actual game goes, Eastern fell to the Skyhawks 27-18 in their matchup last season.

The Panthers went 1-11 overall and 1-7 in conference while Tennessee-Martin went 6-2 in conference with an overall record of 7-5.

Crittenden played a major role in the game against the Skyhawks in 2019, recording a touchdown on a 51-yard fumble recovery.

He said that the goal defensively on Sunday is to keep things consist-



FILE PHOTO | THE DAILY EASTERN NEWS  
Eastern wide receiver Isaiah Hill turns upfield on a 73-yard catch and run in a game against Southeast Missouri on Nov. 16, 2019. Hill had 13 catches for 152 yards and a touchdown in the game, which Eastern lost 26-12.

tent from last season.

"We're going to do the same things," he said. "Run to the ball, 11 men to the ball every play. That's all that matters. We've got a lot of young guys that are going to have to play their first games and get those jitters out, but once we get there, get

that first series out, we'll have a great game."

Cushing also commented on the role younger players will play on Sunday and throughout the season.

"We have a great, great freshman class, and so we're pretty excited about what they're going to con-

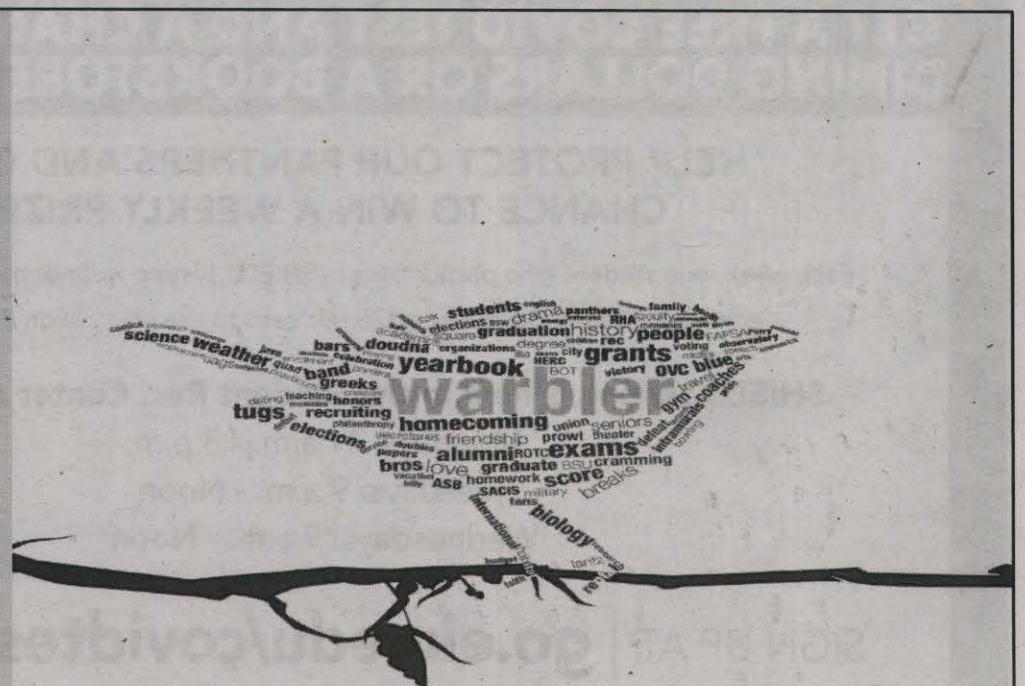
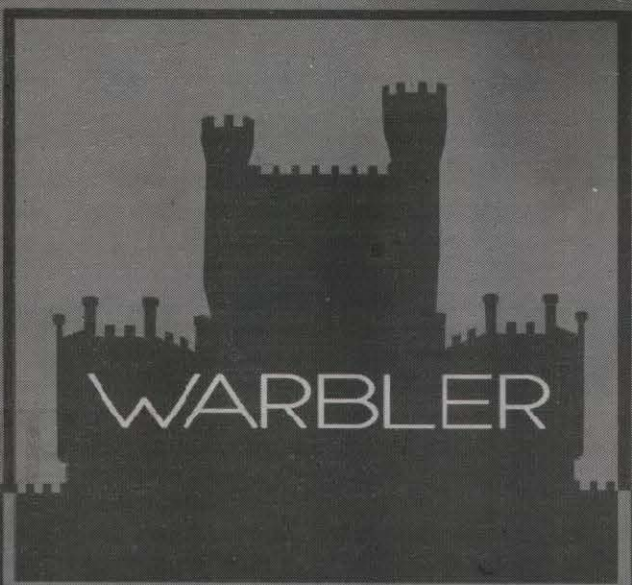
tribute to the football team," he said. "They're going to get their first taste of college football, you know you step out onto that stage and they're going to have some failure they haven't had before, but that's all part of it."

The game Sunday will be the first

of seven, conference-only games for the Panthers during the COVID-altered season. The games are also all going to take place on Sunday afternoons instead of the typical Saturday.

Adam Tumino can be reached at 581-2812 or [ajtumino@eiu.edu](mailto:ajtumino@eiu.edu).

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